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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN

AND OTHER

TOWN OFFICERS,

INCLUDING A REPORT OF THE

SCHOOL BOARD

OF

DANBURY, N. H.,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1889.

DANBURY, N. H.:
W. H. Traver's Columbian Job Press.
1889.

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Selectmen's Report.

Selectmen charge themselves with assessments		
of 1888: State tax,	$745	00
County tax,	577	57
Library "	100	00
Board of Education tax,	50	00
Memorial tax,	5	00
Winter "	250	00
¼ per cent. highway tax,	661	81
Town tax,	500	00
Dog "	70	00
Swllage tax,	136	62
Special Dist. tax,	49	50
School tax,	521	50
Received of State,—Railroad tax,	232	01
Savings bank tax,	890	24
Literary fund "	129	60
Received of County, pauper claims,	990	86
" " town of Hill, bal. on breaking roads,	4	58
" for use of town hall,	7	50
" of Edwin Litchfield, money hired,	600	00
" " J. C. Webster, for use of real estate for Abigail Leeds,	24	00
" " Town of Salisbury, for support of Sarah A. Clough,	86	71
	$6632	50

Selectmen credit themselves with orders to collector:

To Pay—State tax,	$745	00
County tax,	577	57
School "	521	50
Library "	100	00
Memorial tax,	5	00
Board of Education tax,	50	00
Winter "	250	00
Special Dist. "	49	50
¼ per cent. highway "	661	81
Town tax,	500	00
Dog "	70	00
Swellage tax,	136	62
Cash paid Treasurer,	2965	50
	$6632	50

WILLIS A. TUCKER,
EDWARD A. FARNUM,
HARRY G. DEAN,
} Selectmen of Danbury.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

Cash in the Treasury March 1st., 1888,	$937	76
Received of—Selectmen,	2965	50
Collector for 1886,	240	00
" " highway tax,	8	67
" " interest,	11	31
" 1887,	240	93
" " interest,	13	30
" 1888,	1650	00
" " highway tax,	13	50
Parsonage fund interest,	21	76
Literary " "	1	11
	$6103	84

DISBURSEMENTS.

County Paupers.

Paid—A. J. Wells, support of Sarah A. Clough, $52 15
J. C. Webster, coffin for " " 11 00
Mrs. G. G. Brown care of " " 20 00
Wm. S. Morrill, services at funeral of Sarah A. Clough, 1 00
A. Wilkins, digging grave for S. A. Clough, 2 00
C. P. Newton, med. aid to S. E. Towne, 75
" " " " Benj. Evans Jr. and family, 17 80
" " " " C. L. Fay, 5 50
" " " " C. P. Bailey and family, 4 65
" " " " Lizzie Smith, 6 90
" " " " Sarah F. Currier, 3 75
" " " " Ezra Gould, 4 75
" " " " G. H. C. Wilson 16 90
Wm. D. Gould, support of Ezra Gould, 78 00
S. Sleeper, labor at C. P. Bailey's 4 00
Olive J. Wilkins, support of Isaac R. Eastman, 104 00
J. C. Webster, coffin, box &c. for Mrs. Evans, 13 42
" " goods for Isaac R. Eastman, 8 40
" " " Gilbert King, 5 08
" " " Benj. Evans Jr. 79 66
" " " S. E. Towne, 39 45
" " " C. L. Fay, 39 73
" " " Sarah F. Currier, 26 70
" " " Ezra Gould, 2 73
" " support of tramps, 4 50
Susan Peters, for Jane D. Peters, 104 00
S. Clark, goods for Gilbert King, 21 24
" " " C. P. Bailey's family, 99 63
" " " Benj. Evans Jr., 5 54

Paid—S. Clark, goods for Mary A. Lunt, 1 25
" " " Sarah F. Currier, 1 90
" " " G. H. C. Wilson, 89 31
L. M. Jackson, goods for Mary A. Lunt, 2 00
" " " Ezra Gould, 1 75
J. F. Merrill, M.D. med. aid to Mary A. Lunt, 9 00
G. K. Jewett, services at Mrs. Evan's funeral, 1 50
C. A. Wells, digging grave for Mrs. Evans, 2 00
Mrs. J. T. Shannon, for support of Evans children, 70 00
Mrs. N. C. Littlefield, for support of Lizzie Smith, 52 00
A. J. Wells, support of Mary A. Lunt, 12 50
G. W. Weymouth, med. aid to C. L. Fay, 3 00
——— $1029 44

Town Paupers.

Paid–J. C. Webster, for support of minor child of Ruth R. Smith, $75 00
Martha J. Rand, support of Abigail Leeds, 70 50
J. C. Webster, burial exp's. of " " 27 44
C. P. Newton, med. aid to " " 1 50
A. H. Perkins, digging grave for " " 2 00
J. C. Webster, support of Emery F. Blackman, 13 00
——— $189 44

Miscellaneous Items.

Paid–Chase & Streeter, for legal services $10 00
F. B. Johnson, for cleaning town hall, 85
John Hadlock, for road machine, 250 00
" " " edge for " " 8 00
E. H. Walker, freight on " " 9 00
E. C. Eastman, town books &c., 3 15
W. H. Traver, for guide boards, 2 40
" " " printing town reports for '87, 16 00
G. L. Tilton, for damage on highway, 3 00
W. H. Hodgdon, " " " 20 00

Paid–G. W. Stuart,	for damage on highway	1 00
W. C. Sargent,	" " "	3 00
J. T. Morrison	" " "	5 00
A. R. Ford,	" " "	2 00
F. Farnum,	for wood for town hall,	1 50
E. Litchfield,	" " " "	3 50
Quint & Simonds,	for painting guide boards,	10 00
A. H. Perkins,	for labor on cemetery,	5 25
G. K. Jewett,	" making guide board,	1 50
J. L. Hilliard,	for land damage for grade,	5 00
C. A. Cochran,	" stove pipe for town hall,	6 35
F. B. Johnson,	" sawing wood for town hall,	75
G. W. Weymouth,	for return of births and deaths,	75
C. P. Newton,	" " " "	3 75
M. A. Peters,	" " birth,	25
J. S. Knowlton,	literary fund for 1888,	129 60
J. W. Downs,	for decorating soldiers' graves,	5 00
W. W. Walker,	for lot in S. Danbury cemetery,	7 00
J. H. Emmons,	trustee for library,	100 00
G. N. Dexter,	for public watering place,	3 00
J. Tucker.	" " "	3 00
G. W. Dean,	" " "	3 00
J. C. Webster,	" " "	3 00
A. Wilkins,	" " "	3 00
W. A. Tucker,	for checklists, stationery &c.,	6 67
J. C. Webster,	for return of births, deaths and marriages, to State Board of Health,	4 35
" "	for invoice books, oil &c.,	1 95
" "	expense to Concord,	2 00
" "	books for indigent children,	3 74
" "	stationery, postage &c.,	1 50
E. Litchfield,	tax assessed against A. Leeds,	6 03
Parsonage fund interest,		21 76
		$676 60

Highway Expenses.

Paid—J. A. Butrick,	labor on bridges,	$1 00

Paid—W. H. Hodgdon,	labor on	highway,	3 75
S. B. Follansbee,	" "	"	10 00
J. S. Roby,	" "	"	3 50
E. A. Farnum,	" "	"	4 00
J. S. Sargent,	" "	"	15 00
Cyrus Rowe,	" "	"	1 49
J. Tucker,	" "	"	1 00
G. H. Downs,	" "	"	2 00
J. G. Knowlton,	" "	"	12 43
G. B. Pulsifer,	" "	"	4 12
Squire Braley,	" "	bridges,	10 00
B. W. Dean,	" "	culvert,	2 50
H. M. Currier,	" "	bridges,	2 75
L. M. Bean,	" "	"	3 00
J. L. Hilliard,	" "	"	2 50
E. A. Farnum,	" "	"	9 00
S. B. Follansbee,	" "	"	6 25
F. S. Ransom,	" "	"	8 50
W. A. Tucker,	" "	"	7 25
H. G. Dean,	" "	"	1 62
J. A. Butrick,	" "	highway,	1 00
E. Litchfield,	for bridge plank,		22 40
J. T. Morrison,	"	"	36 56
F. Farnum,	"	" and timber,	42 84
E. S. Bagley,	"	"	9 75
E. Litchfield,	stringers for Murray bridge,		32 00
H. G. Dean,	for bridge plank,		1 25
A. M. Braley,	labor on culvert,		75
A. E. Peters,	" "	Murray bridge,	6 50
F. Huntoon,	" "	bridge,	1 40
A. M. Braley,	drawing stringers for Ford bridge,		8 00
M. V. Braley,	labor on Ford bridge,		1 50
G. N. Ford,	for bridge stringers,		8 00
"	" "	timber & labor on bridge.	5 00
H. H. Huntoon,	bridge timber and labor,		4 00
G. K. Jewett,	damage to wagon,		3 00

Paid—L. M. Heath, for labor on Taylor bridge, 3 15

———$298 76

Highway Expenses, with Road Machine.

Paid—A. Wilkins, for labor,	$125	25
A. E. Peters, for board,	26	00
" " labor with oxen,	82	50
A. Wilkins, for keeping oxen,	67	20
E. A. Farnum, for use of "	14	20
C. W. Kendall, " " "	10	00
A. Wilkins, " " "	14	00
S. B. Follansbee, " labor with oxen,	20	00
C. B. Knowlton, for labor,	35	00
B. Langley, " "	55	00
K. S. Bullock, " "	1	25
W. D. Gould, " "	1	25
D. M. Sewell, " "	1	25
S. Morrison, " "	1	25
J. Morrison, " "	1	25
J. F. Wiggin, " "	2	50
L. M. Bean, " "	1	50
J. S. Roby, " "	7	02
G. B. Pulsifer, " "	4	12
O. H. Langley, " shoeing oxen,	1	80
J. O. Gale, " " "	1	70
A. Wilkins, " " "	2	50
" " " repairing machine,	1	75
" " " powder, fuse and oil,		95
S. Clark, for meal,	2	74
J. C. Webster, for meal and hay,	50	25
———	$532	23

Current Expenses.

Paid—Auditors for 1888,	4	50
W. A. Tucker, services as selectman for 1887,	7	00
J. A. Butrick, " " " "	6	00

E. A. Farnum, for services as selectman for 1887,	6	00
W. A. Tucker, " " " " 1888,	51	00
E. A. Farnum, " " " " "	42	00
H. G. Dean, " " " " "	38	00
W. T. Norris services on Board of Education,	35	00
W. W. Walker, " " "	6	00
W. T. Norris, " as overseer of poor, 1887,	1	30
J. H. Emmons, " " " 1888,	1	00
S. Clark, " " " "	3	00
J. C. Webster, " " " "	5	00
J. Wells, " as supervisor for "	16	00
J. T. Morrison, " " " "	16	00
A. Wilkins, " " " "	16	00
Selectmen for Quadrennial Invoice,	42	00
F. E. Litchfield, services as Town Treasurer,	25	00
J. C. Webster, " " " Clerk,	12	00
E. Litchfield, " " collector for 1888,	45	00
H. M. Currier, " " " " 1886,	5	00
" " " " " " 1887,	5	00
	$387	80

Breaking Roads last spring.

Paid—G. W. Stuart,	$4	44
A. P. Braley,	6	50
C. N. Blackman	1	50
A. M. Braley	5	57
" " in Dist. 19,	4	62
Abel Ford,	5	00
J. F. Wiggin,	10	43
F. B. Braley,		62
G. H. Downs,	2	60
G. N. Ford,	8	00
L. M. Heath,	15	80
G. H. Wiggin,	6	80
M. V. Braley,	5	75
S. P. Haskins,	6	95

Paid—C. Rowe,	3 50
J. S. Roby,	2 75
H. B. Chase,	2 50
Albert Downs,	1 40
A. H. Perkins,	4 78
J. L. Hilliard,	8 75
H. S. Jones,	25 49
G. W. Chase,	1 87
B. W. Dean,	3 00
J. S. Sargent,	21 36
W. W. Veazey,	1 97
V. I. Bailey,	5 00
F. Farnum,	11 25
G. A. Pulsifer,	20 87
J. Morrison,	7 10
W. H. Hodgdon,	3 12
D. Perkins,	6 25
G. N. Dexter,	1 50
C. A. Wells,	3 43
C. Stickney,	2 50
J. C. Braley,	8 12
S. Braley,	7 50
L. B. Rand,	10 00
J. Tucker.	9 25
J. S. Ford,	5 00
W. A. Tucker,	2 50
J. W. Sargent,	92
C. M. Stuart,	2 91
W. W. Walker,	6 87
O. I. Eastman,	4 10
J. Wells,	2 75
H. M. Currier,	3 25
F. K. Flanders,	12 25
A. R. Ford,	7 25
J. S. Knowlton,	73
F. Peters,	5 00
F. A. Cram,	1 13

Paid—J. I. Cram,	1	45
G. Littlefield,	12	00
D. M. Sewell,	9	75
M. S. Roby,	8	60
F. L. Hillsgrove,		45
P. G. Sargent,	14	00
G. W. Stuart,	1	25
R. N. Messer,	11	00
A. Wilkins,	5	80
J. V. Ford,	3	50
C. W. Kendall,	3	60
H. M. Currier,	8	25
	$392	15

Breaking Roads this Winter.

Paid—G. A. Pulsifer,	7	37
J. Frazier,		72
C. A. Wells,	2	50
J. A. Jackson,	4	37
E. E. Wells,	5	12
G. K. Jewett,	1	87
S. B. Follansbee,	4	00
A. W. Braley,	1	87
S. Braley,	11	25
D. J. Perkins,	2	96
M. S. Roby,	2	00
A. H. Perkins,	2	25
W. W. Walker,	1	25
D. Sleeper,	2	68
J. V. Ford,		87
A. P. Braley,	2	00
H. M. Currier,	7	40
C. M. Stuart,	1	00
A. R. Ford,	1	10
G. W. Stuart,	6	93
M. V. Braley,	4	00
	$73	51

Outstanding Claims.

Paid—Edwin Litchfield, Notes in full,	$1188 28	
Lydia Currier, " "	839 15	
		$2027 43

Abatements.

Paid—E. Litchfield, collector for 1888,	$13 75	
H. M. Currier, " " 1886,	17 37	
" " " " 1887,	14 48	
		$45 60

Recapitulation.

Whole amount received,	$6103 84

Disbursements.

Paid—Support of county paupers,	$1029 44	
" " town "	189 44	
Miscellaneous items,	676 60	
Highway expenses,	830 99	
Current "	387 80	
Breaking roads,	465 66	
Abatements,	45 60	
Claims,	2027 43	
Damage to sheep by dogs,	25 00	
		$5677 96
Cash in treasury,		425 88
		$6103 84

Outstanding Credits.

Due from—Collector for 1886,	$85 21	
" " 1887,	111 65	
" " 1888,	172 93	
Cash in the Treasury,	425 88	
		$795 67

FRANK E. LITCHFIELD,
Treasurer.

We hereby certify that we have examined the foregoing accounts and found them correctly cast and properly vouched.

ISAIAH LANGLEY,
M. L. TAYLOR,
STILLMAN CLARK,
} Auditors.

INVOICE.

Invoice of the polls and ratable property of the town of Danbury, April 1, 1888.

No. of polls,	203.	Value,	$20,300
Value of Real Estate,			186,290
No. of—Horses,	169.	"	10,938
Mules,	1.	"	50
Oxen,	222.	"	10,348
Cows,	330.	"	7,268
Other neat stock,	454.	"	7,754
Sheep,	1147.	"	2,647
Hogs,	12.	"	64
Carriages,	3.	"	150
Money at interest,			10,935
Stock in trade,			4,640
Mills,			3,340
Rate per cent.,	$1.34		
Reduced value,	$1323.62		
Parsonage fund in hands of the treasurer,			$376.50
Literary " " " "			$39.15

Births Registered in the Town of Danbury, N. H., for the Year ending December 31, 1888.

Date.	Place.	Name of Child.	Male.	Female.	Color.	Name of Father.	Maiden Name of Mother.	Res. of Parents.
Jan. 12.	Danbury.			1	W	Charles A. Wells.	Nellie A. Eastman.	Danbury
Jan. 20.	"			1	"	Alfred Braley.	Anna Devon.	"
Feb. 29.	"			1	"	Geo. H. C. Wilson.	Ida Tucker.	"
Mar. 4.	"	Edith Bell.		1	"	Adelbert P. Braley.	Bell B. Barney.	"
Mar. 25.	"		1		"	Geo. B. Jenness.	Vina A. Bean.	"
Aug. 17.	"			1	"	John Ash.	Mary F. Braley.	"
Nov. 30.	"		1		"	Middie Austin.	Mary Rowe.	"

Marriages Registered in the Town of Danbury, N. H., for the Year ending December 31, 1888.

Date.	Place.	Name of each.	Residence.	Age.	Place of birth.	What Marriage.	By whom married.
Jan. 31, 1888.	Concord, N. H.	John Frazier.	Danbury, N. H.	52.	Salisbury, N. H.	W. 2nd.	E. K. Wilkins,
		Ida L. Brown.	Concord, N. H.	32	Tilton, N. H.	1st.	Concord, N. H.
Feb. 18, "	Danbury, N. H.	John W. Towle.	S. Westminster, Mass.			2nd.	Wm. S. Morrill,
		Lilla E. Peaslee	Danbury, N. H.	27	Danbury, N. H.	2nd	Danbury, N. H.
April 1,	" "	Jerry Langley	" "	27	Canada	1st.	DeForest Safford,
		Hattie King	" "	17	"	1st.	Danbury, N. H.
June 1,	Franklin, "	Frank A. Cram	" "	29	Danbury, N. H.	1st.	J. H. Bliss,
		Lizzie B. Floyd	Franklin, "	20	Londonderry, N. H.	1st.	Franklin, N. H.
June 13.	" "	Willis C. Sargent	Danbury, "	23	Danbury "	1st.	J. H. Bliss,
		Josie C. Shaw	Salisbury, "	20	Salisbury, "	1st.	Franklin, "
Aug. 25.	Danbury, "	Alfred Braley	Danbury, "	29	Danbury, "	2nd.	James S. Knowlton,
		Anna Devon	" "	24	Boston, Mass.	1st.	Danbury, N. H.

Deaths Registered in the Town of Danbury, N. H., for the Year ending December 31, 1888.

Date.	Place.	Name of the Deceased.	Age: Years,	Months,	Days.	Place of Birth.	Single, Married or Widowed.
March 1.	Danbury.	Salome King.	44			Canada.	M
" 7.	"	Hiram T. Jackson.	79	5	28	Danbury.	"
" 23.	"	Esther S. Johnson.	75	3	19	Salisbury.	W
April 12.	"	Louvia M. Rand.	13	1	12	Danbury.	S
" 16.	"	Charles P. Bailey.	38	3	25	Salem, Mass.	W
" 24.	"	Sarah A. Clough.	27	10			"
" 26.	"	Emily Connell.	72	4	9	Thorntorn, N. H.	"
May 6.	"	Rebecca Wescott.	43	5	20	Plymouth, "	M
June 15.	"	Mary Evans.				Franklin, "	"
July 26.	"	Abigail Leeds.	84		19	Andover, "	W
Aug. 11.	"	Hannah G. Kirk.	22	11	26	Danbury "	S
Sept. 9.	"	Moses Eastman.	88	10	7	Salisbury, "	M
Nov. 16.	"	Mabel F. Sargent.	14	2	22	Danbury, "	S
" 30,	"	David M. Cross.	75	2	27	Wilmot, "	M
Dec. 12.	"	Francis P. Chase.	58		29	Danbury, "	"
" 23.	"	Lizzie A. Roby.	22	11	15	" "	S

REPORT OF SCHOOL BOARD.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Receipts.

In Treasury March 1, 1888, school money,	$29 65	
Received of—Collector, " "	521 50	
Town Treasurer, literary fund,	129 60	
		$680 75

Expenditures.

Paid—J. C. Webster, for supplies,	$2 02	
Grafton School Board, tuition of Herbert Tenney, 75 days, and Chester Braley, 56 days, at Wild Meadow school,	6 55	
		$8 57

EASTERN SCHOOL.

Paid—Mary L. Jackson, for teaching and board 1st. term. 8 weeks,	$40 00	
N. Emroy Wilkins, teaching 2nd, term, 9 weeks,	31 50	
Mrs S. B. Follansbee, board 2nd, term, 9 weeks,	13 50	
For kindling wood in '87, and supplies '88,	60	
		$85 60

NORTH ROAD SCHOOL.

Paid—Bertha M. Flanders, teaching 1st. term, 8 weeks,	$32 00	
Bessie H. Prince, teaching 2nd. term, 9 weeks,	36 00	
M. J. Rand, for board of teachers two terms. 17 weeks,	29 75	
D. J. Perkins & F. Huntoon, for wood,	4 27	
		$102 02

UPPER TURNPIKE SCHOOL.

Paid—Ida L. Child, teaching 2 terms, 17 weeks,	$53 25	
Arthur R. Ford, board " " "	29 75	
John S. Ford, for wood,	2 00	
		$85 00

CENTRE SCHOOL.

Paid—Clara M. Farnum, teaching and board 1st. term, 8 weeks,	$48 00	
Jennie Chapman, teaching 2nd. term, 9 wks.,	40 50	
W. T. Norris, for board " "	15 75	
		$104 25

TANNERY SCHOOL.

Paid—N. Emroy Wilkins, teaching 1st. term, 8 wks.	$28 00	
A. P. Mudgett, for board, " " " "	14 00	
DeEtte L. Bullock, teaching and board 2nd. term, 9 weeks,	45 00	
For wood, and sawing and care of the same,	4 75	
		$91 75

SOUTH DANBURY SCHOOL.

Paid—Sadie A. Speare, for teaching and board 1st. and 2nd terms, 17 weeks,	$85 00	
For wood and broom,	80	
		$85 80

NEW CANADA SCHOOL.

Paid—DeEtte L. Bullock, teaching 1st. term, 8 wks,	$24 00	
F. Farnum, for board, " "	12 00	
Clara M. Farnum, teaching and board 2nd. term, 9 weeks,	49 50	
F. Farnum, for wood,	1 50	
		$87 00
		$649 99

Whole amount of School Money,	$680 75
" " expended,	649 99
Balance on hand	$30 76

BUILDING AND REPAIRING.

Money in Treasury March 1, 1888, $85 26

EXPENDED.

Upper Turnpike Out Building.

Paid—G. K. Jewett, for labor,	$11 95	
W. T. Norris, " "	3 00	
J. D. Danforth, for clapboards,	3 60	
K. S. Bullock, for planing boards,	60	
J. C. Webster, for nails and other materials,	2 06	
F. Farnum, for lumber and shingles,	6 45	
	$27 66	

School-house Repairs and Incidentals.

North Road School-house,	$1 00	
Centre " "	1 00	
Tannery " "	1 00	
S. Danbury, " "	1 25	
	$4 25	
Whole amount paid out,		$31 91
Balance,		$53 35

JAS. S. KNOWLTON,
Treasurer of School Board.

We hereby certify that we have examined the foregoing account and found ti correctly cast and properly vouched.

ISAIAH LANGLEY,
M. L. TAYLOR,
STILLMAN CLARK,
} Auditors.

SUPERINTENDENT'S SUGGESTIONS.

To the town and school meetings: the time of annual reckoning to see how the ends meet in school matters has come round again. And we are able to report a fair balance on the right side, with one exception.

Provision was made for the scholars in the western section in a school just out of town. Compliance was stubbornly refused. It was a repetition of what occurred there the year before. But this year no concessions were made, and they had no public schooling. Whether they were "instructed in a private school or at home," within the purview of the saving clause of the statute, we have no means of reporting. Nor was it our duty to inquire. No prosecution under it can be sustained till about the end of the year, because such instruction may be had during the closing twelve weeks, and the seeming offender "still keep o' the windy side of the law." And then hasty resort to legal measures in the face and eyes of obstinacy or mistaken notions of rights or interests is no feather in an official cap, and might come in bad grace for your commendation.

Our schools had but two short terms. Double diligence, however, was invoked to make time or mend the lack of it, with, we trust, some measure of success. What can't be cured must be endured. But mistakes or wrongs must not be endured without protest. Else they will be taken as cured. Hence we protest. "That a great cause of night is lack of the sun," is an axiom with our eyes open. Obstructed vision may need it demonstrated. That a great cause of ignorance is lack of schooling, is alike axiomatic from the right point of view. Sophisms may subtend the mental vision even to total blindness. That stingy economy in doling out school money is in the end the costliest kind of economy, is the next thing to self evident in right reasoning. Prejudice or perversity may demand the "ocular proof." And involved in the proposition is "probation that bears no hinge or loop to hang a doubt on," but we can only pause here to argue it out by the shortest cut. Learning underlies all the industries and moralities. It is the mainspring of inventions and discoveries. Ignorance runs the police and the almshouses. It

is the enemy of neatness and sobriety. And our town dispenses a good deal less money for schooling than for pauperism.

We had a fair average corps of teachers. But there are good teachers, and good teachers. We make no concrete comparisons. We are dealing in the abstract. Under the RULE of one, order is good, the pupils are glib in recitation and fluent at examinatian. But they stumble at the reasons of things. In lieu of delving for rudiments for use, they are culling the flowers for ornament — that, set away in the memory, fade and perish, because detached from their native roots. Under the LEAD of the other, there is little prim circumspection, less exact repetition, and no overtaxing the mind with many studies. But what they learn, they learn. What they know, they know, and can give a reason for and back it up with illustration or demonstration. Genius maps out the plan. Aptness to teach presides over details. Inbred heart beats and brain bents are all numbered. And the principle or process at hand under tuition portrayed by hints or intimations, with the ease of the master outlining his conception of the finished picture. Such teaching is a fine art, and the teacher is a pearl of great price. Keeping order, as such, for the most part ought to be obsolete. It should come, and keep coming, attendant upon attention. It is a marvel to see it come dancing out of tired fussy chaos, to listen to a little chat or a pat story, that breaks in upon the drowsy, droning, rigid routine.

Reading and spelling – the use of language, meaning its grammar of course – are the life and soul of the common school. And for the double reason – fixing the value of things most valuable – utility and scarcity. History, used as a reading book, verges to the same end. Geography, most of it, may be more adapted to the same use, with the map lessons set to measures for concert scanning. Until these be pretty well mastered, nothing else, but arithmetic for the sake of variety, should find room for obtrusion.

Our language is easy enough to be picked up by rote. But coming to learn it by note: if ever a language on earth was confounded, ours is that confounded language. Its alphabet bristles with anomalies, and many of its rules lie buried half dead under a host of exceptions. Beginners from the front forms must stand and spell, spell,

spell w-r-i-g-h-t or w-r-o-n-g, r-o-u-g-h and t-o-u-g-h, till their bones ache and their brains whirl over the exacting reiterations. Moved back a few forms, they still come face to face with the same analytic and synthetic articulation, urged on here by rival stimulation. But steerinng clear of consumption, they may live to learn to spell and define ph-th-is-ic, and coalitions of like mutual repulsions. And running the gauntlet of bad spelling and ill health, and coming out good spellers, MENS SANA IN CORPORE SANA, they may take their places at the head of most cultured men and women. It will be a joyous day to juveniles if ever dictionary men abolish arbitrary spelling. More than a fifteenth of the human race now living are at this moment thinking or speaking or dreaming in our mother tongue. It is the common carrier of more science and morality, better politics and religion than all other languages. And the next reform to be taken in hand, after alcohol is ostracised and the ballot emasculated, should be the emancipation of the signal slaves that do offices betwixt sight and sound, and, under our barbarous tasking, can't even pray in their proper persons for phonetic mercy.

Instruction is apt to be too bookish. Teachers like ease, lack training or a taste for the beauties of independent thinking. If the books were better, this evil might be less grievous. Take an instance in numeration: numbers are units and units are ones — no term of "better known signification." Ignoring this rigmarole, the live teacher tells the class: numbers are things used in counting. And by and by they come by easy stages to the full meaning of both optic and acoustic symbols. Another: numbers are abstract and concrete. As if there were some occult distinction. No such exists. What is the use then of this nonsense. Just as if using numbers to count pigs with, made the ones so used hogish. Education as an agent, teaches how to think, and supplies facts and fancies to think about. As an acquisition, it means a mastery of the art of thinking, with a store of supples on hand. We put the cart before the horse, and begin by cramming the memory with supplies. Science means stocks of supplies in bank. Books are inert tellers that memory may draw from at sight. Teachers are live cashiers, discounting upon terms, and dealing largely with the understanding. Another fault we've been trying hard to eradicate is a kind of duel disposi-

tion to romping recesses and slip-shod recitations. But little heed is paid to the graces of either speech or motion. We wish to emphasize this criticism. Linked as twins in enmity to culture, no school can prosper till both be expelled. An impolite or even a clumsy answer is no answer. And the school room, at least should be sacred to the proprieties and the civilities and the courtesies even of good breeding. But half the teachers' heavy tasks are in undoing what has been done at home. And then they are crippled in their toil by home training still adhering to their enemies and giving them aid and comfort. Incipient elegance of phrasing or accentuation is made the butt of jest and ridicule in the home circle. And how the sensitive little aspirant quails under ridicule! And this bespeaks another criticism. Next to no pains is taken to inculcate self-reliance. But no work of the school is half so essential. Evolution will tell. Survival of the fittest is a rule of nature. But education is rebellion against natue, in alliance with a better nature. Pluck is golden. It comports with caution and modesty. And the boy at any rate should be drilled to do and dare – dare stand up for the right in the rough and tumble – dare say his soul's his own sans peur in the midst of sparkling wit andbeauty in the social circle – dare face his fate sans doute in the sublime crisis of wooing and winning. Past his first decade , he is of little promise that can't don a manhood on emergency. Good training shapes him seeming emergencies. With a bit of guiding for a bout or so, and the fledgling is put upon wing and the care of its own instincts and muscles. Our boy or girl is of more value than many sparrows. And the quicker and the oftener they be left wisely to their own devices, the sooner training will take the trick of pointing to a vocation. And the earlier the right vocat on gets the lead the better, for what is bred in the bone stays longest in the flesh and gives cunningest knack to the senses. In other times or climes, a life time might be spent on a single article of purple or fine linen. But here and now not even a pin or nail is fashioned by any one artisan. Pointing the pin or heading the nail is scope enough for a single head and pair of hands. Magnifying one faculty no doubt minimises the rest, inversely, like the wooden shoe of the baby belle, impairing circulation, and dwarfing the rest of the person. But it finds its compenation in success. And success is the modern test of merit. We need a term or two a year of school of higher grade. Such an one was run the past winter at the centre as a privat enterprise. We had a ten weeks term of about twenty-five sholars, under the instruction of an under graduate from Dartmouth College. He gave us a model school. It was just what we wanted. Tuition came low, the whole cost of it, in cash out, being little more than the expense of sending a couple of boys or girls a term away from home. It ought to be adopted as a model for public terms, made up from the other schools by selections in fair proportions.

TABULATIONS.

Name of School.	No of Term.	Teachers.	Weeks of School.	Wages per month including board.	No. of Scholars.	Average attendance.	Reading.	Spelling.	Penmanship.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar.	History.	Composition.	Drawing.	Algebra.	Philosophy.
CENTRE.	1	Clara M. Farnum.	8	$26	43	36	42	42	24	28	17	15	3				
	2	Jennie Chapman.	9	25	40	34	39	39	20	30	16	13	2				
UPPER TURNPIKE.	1	Ida L. Child.	8	20	10	9	10	10	6	5	4	1					
	2	" "	9	20	9	7	9	9	6	5	4			1	2		
NORTH ROAD	1	Bertha M. Flanders.	8	23	23	13	23	23	15	14	10	6	4				
	2	Bessie H. Prince.	9	23	22	18	22	22	14	13	9	4	2			3	
EASTERN.	1	Mary L. Jackson.	8	20	20	16	20	20	16	15	10	3	1				
	2	N. Emroy Wilkins.	9	20	19	13	19	19	12	16	10	2					
TANNERY.	1	N. Emroy Wilkins.	8	22	18	15	18	18	10	14	7						
	2	DeEtte Bullock.	9	22	21	19	21	21	19	17	11	3					
NEW CANADA.	1	DeEtte Bullock.	8	20	17	11	14	14	8	7	7	2	2				
	2	Clara M. Farnum.	9	22	17	14	15	15	13	12	9	4	5	13			1
SOUTH DANBURY.	1	Sadie A. Speare.	8	20	15	12	15	15	9	14	9	2	2	2			
	2	" "	9	20	18	15	18	18	5	16	10	4	2				

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